



IPSWICH

Essex County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

Once a thriving mill town, Ipswich today is a culturally and economically diverse community of approximately 12,000 persons, many of whom are descendants of Greek, Polish, Irish and English factory workers. There are summer communities located on Great Neck, Little Neck and Argilla Road, mixed with year-round residences. The town has a rich and varied history and is distinguished by a large number of 17th and early 18th century homes.

Ipswich's growth as a suburban town occurred during the 1950's and many residents commute to Boston by train and automobile. Among the town's attractions are Crane Beach, Castle Hill, extensive salt marshes, the Ipswich River, shellfishing and other waterfront activities. Two state forests and parks, three large tracts owned by religious orders and several large farms and estates in open space restrictive covenants provide a rural character to sections of the community. There are 12 churches representing a wide array of different faiths and numerous active social, civic and fraternal organizations.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Northeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Topsfield, Hamilton, and Essex on the south; Boxford on the west; Rowley on the north, and the Atlantic Ocean on the east. Ipswich is 12 miles north of Salem, 12 miles southeast of Haverhill, 28 miles north of Boston, and 241 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 42.15 sq. miles

Land Area: 32.61 sq. miles

Population: 11,873

Density: 364 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Middleton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.8°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.6°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.6"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Ipswich, Georgetown, Gloucester

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (978) 356-2262

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Manager

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1634

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	7,964		
Democrats	1,676	21.0	%
Republicans	1,428	17.9	%
Other parties	4	0.1	%
Unenrolled Voters	4,856	61.0	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Ipswich town, Essex County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	12,987	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	12,987	100.0
Male.....	6,145	47.3	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	135	1.0
Female.....	6,842	52.7	Mexican.....	23	0.2
Under 5 years.....	744	5.7	Puerto Rican.....	39	0.3
5 to 9 years.....	884	6.8	Cuban.....	8	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	872	6.7	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	65	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	695	5.4	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	12,852	99.0
20 to 24 years.....	447	3.4	White alone.....	12,591	97.0
25 to 34 years.....	1,278	9.8	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,393	18.4	Total population.....	12,987	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	2,282	17.6	In households.....	12,785	98.4
55 to 59 years.....	783	6.0	Householder.....	5,290	40.7
60 to 64 years.....	578	4.5	Spouse.....	2,854	22.0
65 to 74 years.....	1,008	7.8	Child.....	3,687	28.4
75 to 84 years.....	748	5.8	Own child under 18 years.....	2,851	22.0
85 years and over.....	275	2.1	Other relatives.....	378	2.9
Median age (years).....	41.7	(X)	Under 18 years.....	83	0.6
18 years and over.....	10,002	77.0	Nonrelatives.....	576	4.4
Male.....	4,630	35.7	Unmarried partner.....	253	1.9
Female.....	5,372	41.4	In group quarters.....	202	1.6
21 years and over.....	9,711	74.8	Institutionalized population.....	60	0.5
62 years and over.....	2,359	18.2	Noninstitutionalized population.....	142	1.1
65 years and over.....	2,031	15.6	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	771	5.9	Total households.....	5,290	100.0
Female.....	1,260	9.7	Family households (families).....	3,462	65.4
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,590	30.1
One race.....	12,885	99.2	Married-couple family.....	2,854	54.0
White.....	12,675	97.6	With own children under 18 years.....	1,280	24.2
Black or African American.....	51	0.4	Female householder, no husband present.....	445	8.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	11	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	241	4.6
Asian.....	104	0.8	Nonfamily households.....	1,828	34.6
Asian Indian.....	12	0.1	Householder living alone.....	1,496	28.3
Chinese.....	39	0.3	Householder 65 years and over.....	619	11.7
Filipino.....	4	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,658	31.3
Japanese.....	12	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,412	26.7
Korean.....	22	0.2	Average household size.....	2.42	(X)
Vietnamese.....	10	0.1	Average family size.....	3.00	(X)
Other Asian ¹	5	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	5,601	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	5,290	94.4
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	311	5.6
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	187	3.3
Some other race.....	43	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.9	(X)
Two or more races.....	102	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.7	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:</i> ³			Occupied housing units.....	5,290	100.0
White.....	12,774	98.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	3,854	72.9
Black or African American.....	82	0.6	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,436	27.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	36	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.63	(X)
Asian.....	130	1.0	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.86	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	5	-			
Some other race.....	69	0.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	246
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	46
Federal (Section 8):	55



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Ipswich is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are Interstate Route 95, which passes just west of the town, and State Route 133.

Rail

Commuter rail service is available to North Station, Boston, from Ipswich. Travel time: 53-55 min.; 170 MBTA parking spaces.

Bus

Ipswich is a member of the Cape Ann Transportation Authority (CATA). There is no fixed route service, but CATA provides a Dial-A-Ride service for the elderly and disabled.

Other

The Newburyport-Plum Island Airport is a privately owned public-use facility located 1 mi. SE of town. It has a 2,520'x 50' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Ipswich Historical Society
53 S. Main Street
(978) 356-2811

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Stephen Caldwell Mem Conv Hom

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.